Numb. 232

# The TATLER.

By *Iſaac Bickerſtaff* Eſq;

From *Saturday September* 30. to *Tueſday October* 3. 1710.

*From my own Apartment, October* 2.

I HAVE received the following Letter from my unfortunate old Acquaintance the Upholſterer, who, I obſerved, had long abſented himſelf from the Bench at the upper End of the *Mall*. Having not ſeen him for ſome Time, I was in Fear I ſhould ſoon hear of his Death, eſpecially ſince he never appeared, tho' the Noons have been of late pretty warm, and the Councils at that Place very full from the Hour of Twelve to Three, which the Sages of that Board employ in Conference, while the unthinking Part of Mankind are eating and drinking for the Support of their own private Perſons, without any Regard to the Publick.

*SIR*,

'I Should have waited on you very frequently to have diſcourſed you upon ſome Matters of Moment, but that I love to be well informed in the Subject upon which I conſult my Friends before I enter into Debate with them. I have therefore with the utmoſt Care and Pains applied my ſelf to the reading all the Writings and Pamphlets which have come out ſince the Tryal, and have ſtudied Night and Day in order to be Maſter of the whole Controverſy: But the Authors are ſo numerous, and the State of Affairs alters ſo very faſt, that I am now a Fortnight behind-hand in my Reading, and know only how Things ſtood Twelve Days ago. I wiſh you would enter into thoſe uſeful Subjects; for, if I may be allowed to ſay ſo, theſe are not Times to jeſt in. As for my own Part, you know very well, that I am of a publick Spirit, and never regarded my own Intereſt, but looked further; and let me tell you, that while ſome People are minding only themſelves and Families, and others are thinking only of their own Country, Things go on ſtrangely in the *North*. I foreſee very great Evils ariſing from the Neglect of Tranſactions at a Diſtance; for which Reaſon I am now writing a Letter to a Friend in the Country, which I deſign as an Anſwer to the Czar of *Muſcovy*'s Letter to the Grand Signior concerning his Majeſty of *Sweden*. I have endeavoured to prove, that it is not reaſonable to expect that his *Swediſh* Majeſty ſhould leave *Bender* without Forty Thouſand Men; and I have added to this an Apology for the *Coſſacks*. But the Matter multiplies upon me, and I grow dim with much Writing; therefore deſire, if you have an old green Pair of Spectacles, ſuch as you uſed about your Fiftieth Year, that you ſend them to me; as alſo, that you would pleaſe to deſire Mr. *Morphew* to ſend me in a Buſhel of Coals on the Credit of my Anſwer to his Czarian Majeſty; for I deſign it ſhall be printed for *Morphew*, and the Weather grows ſharp. I ſhall take it kindly if you would order him alſo to ſend me the Papers as they come out. If there are no freſh Pamphlets publiſhed, I compute that I ſhall know before the End of next Month what has been done in Town to this Day. If it were not for an ill Cuſtom lately introduced by a certain Author, of talking *Latin* at the Beginning of Papers, Matters would be in a much clearer Light than they are: But to our Comfort, there are ſolid Writers who are not guilty of this Pedantry. The *Poſt-Man* writes like an Angel: The *Moderator* is fine Reading! It would do you no Harm to read the *Poſt-Boy* with Attention; he is very deep of late. He is inſtructive; but I confeſs a little ſatyrical: A ſharp Pen! He cares not what he ſays. The *Examiner* is admirable, and is become a grave and ſubſtantial Author. But above all I am at a Loſs how to govern my ſelf in my Judgment of thoſe whoſe whole Writings conſiſt in Interrogatories: And then the Way of anſwering by propoſing Queſtions as hard to them is quite as extraordinary. As for my Part, I tremble at theſe Novelties; we expoſe, in my Opinion, our Affairs too much by it. You may be ſure the *French* King will ſpare no Coſt to come at the reading of them. I dread to think if the Fable of the *Black Birds* ſhould fall into his Hands. But I ſhall not venture to ſay more till I ſee you. In the mean time,

*I am*, &c.

'*P. S.* I take the *Bender* Letter in the *Examiner* to be ſpurious.

This

This unhappy Correſpondent, whoſe fantaſtical Loyalty to the King of *Sweden* has reduced him to this low Condition of Reaſon and Fortune, would appear much more monſtrous in his Madneſs, did we not ſee Crowds very little above his Circumſtances from the ſame Cauſe, a Paſſion to Politicks.

It is no unpleaſant Entertainment to conſider the Commerce even of the Sexes interrupted by Difference in State Affairs. A Wench and her Gallant parted laſt Week upon the Words *Unlimited* and *Paſſive*: And there is ſuch a Jargon of Terms got into the Mouths of the very ſilleſt of the Women, that you cannot come into a Room even among them, but you find them divided into *Whig* and *Tory*. What heightens the Humour is, that all the hard Words they know they certainly ſuppoſe to be Terms uſeful in the Diſputes of the Parties. I came in this Day where Two were in very hot Debate, and one of them propoſed to me to explain to them what was the Difference between Circumciſion and Predeſtination. You may be ſure I was at a Loſs; but they were too angry at each other to wait for my Explanation, but proceeded to lay open the whole State of Affairs, inſtead of the uſual Topicks of Dreſs, Gallantry, and Scandal.

I have often wondered how it ſhould be poſſible that this Turn to Politicks ſhould ſo univerſally prevail, to the Excluſion of every other Subject out of Converſation; and upon mature Conſideration, find it is for Want of Diſcourſe. Look round you among all the young Fellows you meet, and you ſee thoſe who have leaſt Reliſh for Books, Company, or Pleaſure, though they have no Manner of Qualities to make them ſucced in thoſe Purſuits, ſhall make very paſſable Politicians. Thus the moſt barren Invention ſhall find enough to ſay to make one appear an able Man in the Top-Coffee-houſes. It is but adding a certain Vehemence in uttering your ſelf, let the Thing you ſay be never ſo flat, and you ſhall be thought a very ſenſible Man, if you were not too hot. As Love and Honour are the nobleſt Motives of Life, ſo the Pretenders to them, without being animated by them, are the moſt contemptible of all Sorts of Pretenders. The unjuſt Affectation of any Thing that is laudable, is ignominious in Proportion to the Worth of the Thing we affect: Thus, as Love of one's Country is the moſt glorious of all Paſſions, to ſee the moſt ordinary Tools in a Nation give themſelves Airs that Way, without any one good Quality in their own Life, has ſomething in it Romantick, yet not ſo ridiculous as odious.

## ADVERTISEMENT.

*Mr.* Bickerſtaff *has received* Silvia's *Letter from the* Bath, *and his Siſter is ſet out thither.* Tom Frontley, *who is one of the* Guides *for the Town, is deſired to bring her into Company, and oblige her with a Mention in his next Lampoon.*

*Advertiſements.*

☞ The THIRD Volume of the LUCUBRATIONS of Iſaac Bickerſtaff Eſq; on a large Letter, in Octavo, being now in the Preſs; ſuch as pleaſe to ſubſcribe for it on a Royal Paper, to keep up their Sets, are deſired to ſend their Names to Charles Lilly, Perfumer, the Corner of Beauford Buildings in the Strand, and John Morphew near Stationers-Hall. Where the Firſt and Second Volumes are to be delivered.

*MOurning-Gowns for Men and Women, of Silk, Stuffs, and Callicoe's (being the Goods of Perſons that failed) which were to be diſpoſed of at the Olive-Tree and Still, are now to be ſold at the Golden Sugar-Loaf up one Pair of Stairs, over-againſt the Horſe at Charing-Croſs; with a freſh Parcel at very low Rates, the Price being ſet on each Gown.*

**Drinking-Glaſſes, Decanters, Cruets, &c.**

THere having of late been many Advertiſements publiſhed, of Flint-Glaſs ſold at ſome particular Places at 12 d. per Pound; This is to give Notice, That 12 d. per Pound is the Current Price the Shopkeepers of London and Weſtminſter do ſell at. And all Gentlemen and others may, at any of the ſaid Shops, have any Sort of Flint-Glaſſes, (and Glaſſes made to Pattern) at 12 d. per Pound.

††† Juſt publiſhed, for the Uſe of Schools, Select Stories out of Ovid's Metamorphoſis. The 2d Edition, with the Addition of Ajax and Ulyſſes out of the 13th Book. Corderius, the 2d Edition, with Engliſh Notes likewiſe. By the Author of the Peculiars. Sold by T. Guy at the Oxford-Arms in Lombard-ſtreet, and J. Churchill at the Black Swan in Pater-Noſter-row. Where Phædrus, Terence, Caſtallio, and the reſt of the Books by the ſame Author, are to be had.

*** Mr. Vickers the Clergyman, who cures the King's-Evil, liveth in Sherburn-Lane near Lombard-ſtreet. See his eaſie and ſafe Method of Cure, with ſeveral Obſervations of great Uſe and Service to People afflicted with that Diſtemper: Alſo a faithful Relation of ſundry Cures on Men, Women, and Children. The Fourth Edition. Printed for S. Manſhip at the Ship againſt the Royal-Exchange, and A. Collins, the Black Boy againſt St. Dunſtan's Church. Price 6 d.

THis is to give Notice, That the late Dwelling-houſe (with Coach-houſe and Stables) of Sir Simon Harcourt in Eſſex-ſtreet in the Strand, is to be let by Leaſe, or Lodgings ready furniſhed.

FOR Sale by the Candle, on Thurſday next being the 5th Inſtant, at Garraway's Coffee-houſe in Exchange-Alley, at Four in the Afternoon (only one Cask in a Lot) viz. 55 Hhds. and 8 half Hhd's. of excellent French (Margaux and Obrion) Clarets, deep, bright, ſtrong, and of the true Flavour; neat and entire, perfect fine, and fit for Bottling; lying in a Vault under Clothworkers-Hall in Mincing-lane. To be ſeen and taſted this Day and to Morrow from 7 to 1, and from 2 to 6, and all Thurſday till the Hour of Sale. To be ſold by Thomas Tomkins, Broker, in Seething lane, between Tower-ſtreet and Crouched-Fryars.

NOtice is hereby given by the Agent for the Captors, That there will be expoſed to Sale this Day being the 3d Inſtant, at Lloyd's Coffee-houſe in Lombard-ſtreet, at Four in the Afternoon (only one Cask in a Lot) viz. 56 Hogſheads of new Prize French Pontac Clarets, bright, ſtrong and freſh, of the right Flavour, and the beſt that has been brought into England for many Years paſt, deſigned for the French Generals in Flanders, but was taken by an Engliſh Man of War; now in a Vault under the late Dwelling-houſe of Mr. Pym, the Corner of Water-lane in Tower-ſtreet. To be taſted till the Hour of Sale. To be ſold by T. Tomkins, Broker.

The moſt valuable Parcel of Goods ever yet expoſed to Sale, to be ſeen at the Naked Boy in Henrietta-ſtreet, Covent-Garden.

THis is to give Notice, That Mrs. Symonds's Sale of a Japan'd Cabinet, and weighty Plate, being near full (in which, beſides the Number of large Prizes, there are but 11 Blanks a Prize) will be drawn within a Fortnight. Tickets are to be had at Mr. Wyvill's, a Silkman, at the Blue Boar near the Conduit in Cheapſide; Mr. Lillie's, Perfumer, the Corner of Beauford-Buildings; Mrs. Page's, a Milliner, in King-ſtreet, Weſtminſter; at Mr. Clark's China-ſhop in King ſtreet, Guildhall; Mrs. Symonds's in Exeter-Exchange-court in the Strand; Mr. Skinman's, Diſtiller, in St. James's Market; and at the Naked Boy in Henrietta-ſtreet, Covent-Garden, at 5 s. per Ticket.

THIS is to give Notice, That Mr. Peters's Sale of Houſes in Gloceſter-ſtreet, of 1000 l. for Half a Crown, being near full, will be drawn within a Fortnight at fartheſt. Tickets are to be had at Mr. Halſey's, Ironmonger, in Wood-ſtreet; Mr. Farran's, Goldſmith, at the Bust Periwig in Ruſſell-ſt. Covent-Garden; Mr. Chantrill, Shoemaker, at the Corner of Tooley-ſtreet; Mr. Lillie's, Perfumer, at the Corner of Beauford-Buildings; at Rice's Coffee houſe in the Haymarket; Mr. Smith's at the Black Spread Eagle in Leaden-hall Market; Mr. Wind's, Cheeſemonger, near Stocks Market; Mr. Rutter's in St. John's-ſtreet; at the Two Houſes in Gloceſter-ſtreet; and all the other Places mentioned in the Propoſals.

ONE Hundred Pounds for Half a Crown: Or, Propoſals for ſeveral Prizes, by Mr. William Morris; a fine Diamond Croſs ſet tranſparent with a Button all Brilliants, Plate, Atlaſſes, one Silk, ſix Silk Night-Gowns, and ſeveral other valuable Things. It's propoſed to deliver out by Subſcription Two Thouſand Five Hundred Tickets, in which there are 177 Prizes, the higheſt 100 l. the loweſt 11 s. and 13 Blanks to a Prize. Tickets to be had at Mrs. Pinkney's, a Milliner, in Taviſtock-ſtreet, next to the Cheeſemonger's in Southampton-ſtreet in Bedford-Buildings; Mr. Andrews's, Glover, at the Ball and Glove in Charles-court in the Strand, near York-Buildings; Mr. Green's in Cary-lane, near Goldſmiths-hall; Mr. Barnard's, Gloveſeller, at Mr. Tompion's, the Corner of Water-lane, Fleet-ſtreet; Mr. Stokoe's, Bookſeller, at the Key and Bible againſt the Mews-gate, Charing-Croſs. Note, The Goods are to be ſeen at Mr. Andrews's aforeſaid, and will certainly be drawn on Tueſday Octob. 17. out of two Wheels by two Pariſh Boys, at the Great Room in York-Buildings: And if not drawn, the Money to be returned.

Sold by *John Morphew* near *Stationers-Hall*; where Advertiſements are taken in.